

STATEWIDE COMPLIANCE AND OUTREACH PROGRAM

Board of Equalization permit and license checks will help keep our tax system fair

Most business owners know they need a state seller's permit to sell or lease merchandise in California. However, some business owners are not aware of this requirement. When businesses operate without the proper permits or licenses, they have an unfair advantage over those who follow the law.

State Board of Equalization compliance and outreach specialists will visit your area soon as part of the Statewide Compliance and Outreach Program. They will visit individual businesses to make sure the business owners have the state tax and fee permits they need and that they understand their tax responsibilities.

The visits are intended to help keep our tax system fair by making sure all business owners follow the law and pay the proper amount of taxes due.

A seller's permit may not be enough

As you probably know, businesses that sell or lease merchandise, vehicles, or other goods in California must have a state seller's permit and pay sales and use tax. This is true whether the business is operated by an individual or another business entity, for example, a corporation, partnership, or limited liability company. Both wholesalers and retailers must apply for a permit. The permits are free.

For some businesses, a seller's permit is not enough. They may also need to register for

(over)

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

PUBLICATION 165

other state tax and fee programs. For example, cigarette retailers need a special license to sell cigarettes.

For a full list of Board of Equalization administered programs, see our website, www.boe.ca.gov/info/reg.htm.

Board of Equalization permit and license checks

When our compliance and outreach specialists visit a business, they will:

- Check for required permits and licenses,
- Provide registration information,
- Update account information for businesses whose operations have changed since they first took out a seller's permit,
- Provide information that describes business owners' legal rights, and
- Answer questions about laws and regulations that apply to specific businesses.

For more information

If you have any questions about these license checks, or for more information about specific tax and fee programs, visit our website at www.boe.ca.gov, or call our Taxpayer Information Section at 800-400-7115 (TTD/TTY: 800-735-2929)

For Board Member contact information and a list of BOE offices, visit www.boe.ca.gov

Taxpayers' Rights Advocate: 888-324-2798



Board of Equalization Members

BETTY T. YEE, First District • BILL LEONARD, Second District

MICHELLE STEEL, Third District • JUDY CHU, Ph.D., Fourth District

JOHN CHIANG, State Controller

Executive Director, RAMON J. HIRSIG